



NEWS RELEASE

Tennessee Regulatory Authority

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Kingsport Power Company to TRA: Our Electricity Transmission System is Dependable

Nashville, Tennessee - The transmission system that provides electricity to the city of Kingsport, Tennessee and its neighboring communities is reliable, say officials from American Electric Power Company (AEP) and Kingsport Power.

The Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA), prompted by the recent dramatic failure of the electricity transmission network that caused blackouts from New York City to Cleveland, Ohio, invited officials from AEP and Kingsport Power to speak directly to the reliability of their electricity network and provide assurances of the stability of their transmission system.

“Along with our regulatory duties, the TRA is charged with the responsibility of promoting the public interest,” said TRA Chairman, Debi Tate. “Immediately following the blackouts experienced in the northeast, we contacted Kingsport Power, met with them in Kingsport and asked that they provide information regarding the reliability of their system in Tennessee as well as the company’s response plan in case of an emergency here.”

Kingsport Power serves 45,600 customers who enjoy some of the lowest rates in the nation said Stuart Solomon, Vice-President of Public Policy with AEP. He added that AEP supports mandatory transmission reliability standards administered by the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC).

“Obviously, we hope that blackouts will not occur, but we also want to know that companies are prepared if they do,” added Tate.

The TRA plans to continue a regular dialogue with Kingsport Power as more information is forthcoming regarding the outages in the northeast.

Information regarding this presentation to the Authority is available on the TRA web site at www.state.tn.us/tra.

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